Loughlinstown at 50

Capturing memories

started, where we've been and where we're going……

- We held a session with residents from Loughlinstown in August 2025
- Here's their memories from years gone by

In the beginning…..

- Achill Road is the first estate in Loughlinstown to be built in 1977
- Followed by Ennel Court, Hollycourt, Sheelin, Glencar, Glenavon
- Memories of the workman's hut, JCB's & cement mixers still about when the first residents moved in
- Horses in gardens
- Fella played bagpipes in Cromlech Fields – in the caravan park. He was on holidays there and started playing at 7.30 every morning

- 1979 – was the start of the summer projects
- Gerry Cahill started them, and many residents became the volunteers that ran the projects in the 70's & 80's
- 1st meeting was in the office in Ennel Court (Miriam Lyons did the drawings)
- They had to use candles as there wasn't any electricity in the office
- The meeting was crowded, and they were there until all hours at night
- The health clinic was established on Wyatville road

- The Dr's in the area were: Dr Duggan, Dr Stone & Dr Canavan
- The rent man & woman used to call around to the houses to collect the rents – Wendy, Joe McGovern & Mr Feely
- Mary Hodgins ran a bus from Achill Road to the scout's den every day (Hughie McCann)
- The little sisters of the poor supported the families in the area. They were based in Oakton Park
- Fr Mitchell blessed all the houses

70's memories…….

In the 80's.....

- Dave opened a mobile shop in Achill Rd
- There was also a Vietnamese mobile takeaway – owned by a man who lived in Cromlech Fields
- Carol's mobile shopvan started across from Hollycourt, in front of the three storey's
- Bert's mobile chipper was at the entrance to Glenavon
- There was a mobile library parked at the top of Wyatville Rd
- Harry Wynn sold meats from his van
- Mick Larkin had a shop in the cul de sac in Cromlech Fields
- Jimmy Perry & Gary Philips were the coalmen that delivered coal to the communities
- Paul Byrne had a mobile video van
- OPTIONS CE scheme started in the village in 88 – they worked in the Loughlinstown area with youth
- Paul Howard volunteered
- Anne Keegan organised sunrise walks to Killiney beach – everyone sent their kids over to her to go on the walks down
- The gardening association started in Nov 1984
- The rent office was established in Hollycourt
- The Rose of Loughlinstown became a yearly event in the workman's club
- Archbishop McQuaid school was built
- Church of St Columbanus was completed in 1988
- St Columbanus badminton club started in 1985
- Choir started in 1988
- Fundraisers for building the community rooms – volunteers collected cakes and bread from Superquinn every Thursday to sell

80's memories..

In the 90's.....

- Raging Hormones drama group started
- Bunny Bell had weekly Rosary meetings in her house
- Bunny also organised trips abroad every summer for anywhere between 30 & 50 people
- The Badminton Club sponsored a yearly BBQ and disco
  - Mick Barry DJ'd
  - John Kearney supplied the potatoes, which were washed in the river
  - The kids brough their own sausages
  - The BBQ itself was an oil drum cut in half
- The Ramblers Rest held a football match in the top fields every year
- Some Sundays – Brian O'Neill, Betty Ryan & Dennis Brock organised 2 buses to Cara Lara & McDonalds
  - They'd have orange bowls filled with minerals
- There was a community market in the portacabin across from Glencar, organised by the Catholic Social Service Council
- The portacabin was also used as a playschool and held yoga, adult education courses, housed the Pidgeon and Gardening clubs
- Many of the local community centre's & projects started between the 90's & 2000's:
  - Hollyhouse
  - SWAN
  - Estate Management
  - L.E.G
  - Men's Sheds
  - Loughlinstown Community Rooms
  - Loughlinstown Community Council
  - The Leisure centre

90's memories.....

2000's.....

- Irish dancing started
- The Portacabin was burned down
- The over 50's Club started

2010's.....

- Our adult kids are still living at home
- Our adult kids are back living in the community
- Our grandkids are loving being part of the community....with the Community Rooms providing loads of opportunities for them

2020's.....

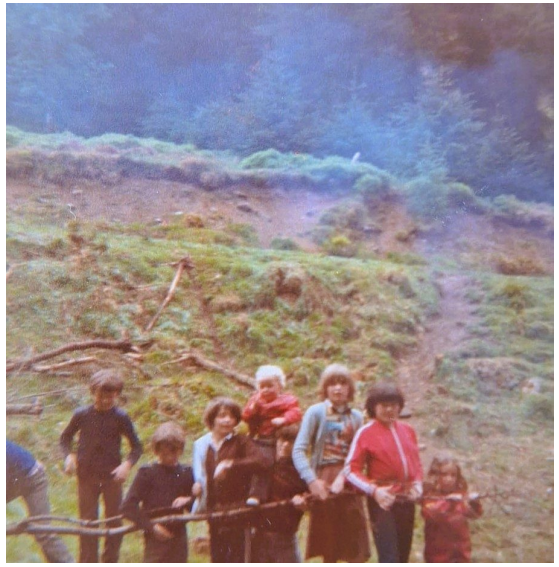
- Some of the original kids that participated on the original summer projects in the 1980's are now helping run the current summer projects in Loughlinstown today

2000's onwards.....

Aerial view of the land where your house was built

Memories through the years.....

GARDA



KIDS GRAVY TRAIN
SHOP

DODGEMS

SHOP

VISHING SEAT

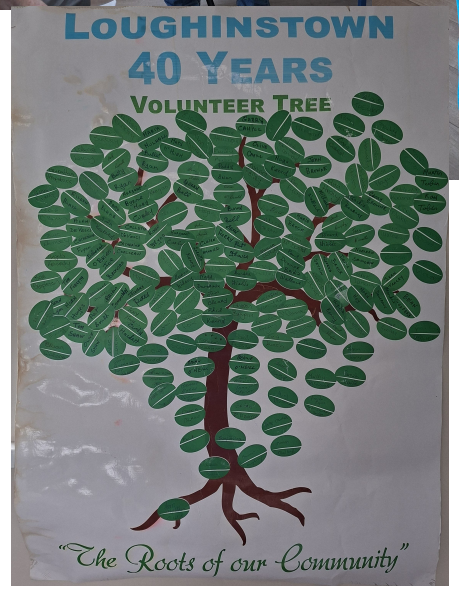
VISITING SEAT

LOUGHLINSTOWN
COMMUNITY

LOUGHINSTOWN
40 YEARS

Loughlinstown
Summer Project 2013

Loughlinstown
Summer Project 2013


LOUGHINSTOWN
40 YEARS
VOLUNTEER TREE
"The Roots of our Community"